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Yale University *New Haven, Connecticut 06510*

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
333 Cedar Street

Department of Psychiatry

July 9, 1974

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Professor Lederberg:

I believe that my colleague and friend, Dr. Charles Radding, has already contacted you about my proposed visit to the San Francisco area next month and told you something about my purposes.

For the past ten years, I have been carrying out full time research on the psychology of creativity as a Research Scientist Career Investigator supported by the National Institute of Mental Health. During this period, my work has focused almost exclusively on creativity in the arts but, in recent years, some of my findings have pointed me toward the exploration of scientific creativity. In other words, while I have heretofore worked primarily with writers and painters (most of the leading authors in the eastern United States and several in the midwest and west have by now participated in the study) some of my results, particularly those pertaining to specific thought processes operating in creativity, seem to apply to the scientific area as well.

During the current year, I have been enabled, through the good graces of a Guggenheim Fellowship, to begin to explore the feasibility of applying some of the methodology I have used up to now to the field of science. I would, therefore, be most grateful if I could have an opportunity to talk with you at this point.

Although I am a psychiatrist, I should mention that my interest is primarily in thought processes involved in discovery and creation rather than personality psychodynamics or biography. My interest in talking with you would be to hear something about your experiences in your earlier work with genetic recombination and your more recent activities, both investigative and administrative. I would be particularly interested in your own ideas about scientific creativity and I would like to assess the feasibility of applying the methodology I have used with outstanding writers to the work of outstanding scientists.

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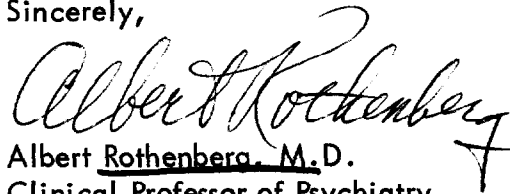
*I will be glad to talk to you. Can you send me
some references or reports?*

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Would it be possible for me to meet with you any time during the period from August 8 to 21 when I will be in California? I would anticipate that I would require no more than 45 minutes to an hour for an informal talk.

Thank you very much in advance for your kind reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert Rothenberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Albert Rothenberg, M.D.
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
Principal Investigator,
"Studies in the Creative Process"

AR:ml